

**MEETING MINUTES
WATER RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMISSION
South Florida Water Management District
Water Resources Advisory Commission Issues Workshop**



**Lower East Coast Water Supply Plan Update
And Alternative Water Supply FY 2007 Funding**

**SFWMD Miami Field Station
9001 NW 58th Street
Miami, FL 33178
Thursday, April 20, 2006
9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.**

There Will Be Opportunities for Public Comment after Each Presentation

Attending SFWMD

Jim Jackson
Jane Bucca
Laura Corry

Barbara Powell
Jose Fuentes
Sandra Gomez

John Mulliken
Joseph Baptiste
Rick Smith

Attending WRAC Member

Jim Reynolds
Christina Casado-Acorn
Rebecca Garvoille, Alternate for Carolyn Dekle

**9:30 1. Welcome and Introductions, Irela Bagué,
Governing Board Member**

Welcomed everyone, we are here to discuss two programs: LEC Water Supply Plan Update, the blue print for future water supply; and, Our AWS Grant program to develop alternative water supply projects.

Our water will grow to 1.3 billion gallons a day. It is our obligation to insure that water needed for restoration is not permitted for consumptive use. We also have the obligation that the water from the Biscayne is not wasted. Last week, the Governing Board unanimously approved a motion authorizing staff to begin rule development to restrict use of regional water for consumptive use. At the same time, we are working with utilities across the District to develop alternate water supplies. The Keys and the City of North Miami Beach, received grants last year for the alternative water supply program. We are also working with DEP to encourage water reuse. At the May Governing Board meeting, we expect to approve a program with Miami-Dade County. We will develop a 20 year plan which will rely on alternate water sources to meet the projected County's growth. We appreciate the effort of the Miami Board of Commissioners and the new leadership (John Renfrow) in the Water and Sewer Department. We look forward to the partnership. Alternative solutions must become commonplace. State Legislation of 2005 gave us a mandate to implement alternate water supply projects and the legislature made a commitment to help fund this alternate project with State and District revenues. State lawmakers gave us the guidance for updating our water supply plan with the focus in identifying alternate supply projects to provide water without competing with our natural systems and this is to

mitigate future water wars. Florida is taking bold steps to deal with future growth.

Barbara Powell will discuss an Updated Water Supply Plan that is going to the Governing Board in July, a list of projects recommended to meet water needs from 2005 to 2025

Jane Bucca will discuss FY07 AWS Grant Process and Schedule.

Introduced John Mulliken.

Dr. Pat Gleason from CDM and Tom Miller from PBC Water Utilities on the phone

9:45 2. Water Supply Plan Approach and Schedule, John Mulliken, Division Director, Water Supply Planning, (See presentation)

Questions and answers

Larry Shuster - On your water supply table we have 29 mgd. Does it include irrigation?

John Mulliken – This is public water supply demand, this does not include individual irrigation wells, parks or other facilities.

Larry Shuster -The plan should be divided into potable and nonpotable demands. The water supply for your future does not account for irrigation, you have to change public perception of water supply, and educate the public.

John Mulliken – The Plan will have a conservation section, we are strong advocates of water reuse, we are trying to get to the point where we use the lowest quality for the intended use. In the plan we are more specific on conservation.

Irela Bague - When we go out and educate the people we don't say we will run out of water, that will not happen because we are surrounded by water, salt water, but desalination will cost more money.

10:00 3. Lower East Coast Water Supply Plan Update, Barbara Powell, LEC Plan Manager, Water Supply Planning (See presentation)

Barbara Powell – Final workshop will be in late June. We are going to the Governing Board on July 12, and there will be a presentation to the WRAC in May and June with all the regional water supply demands.

Questions and answers

Darrel Dunn - Why use finished instead of raw water?

John Mulliken - The plan will have both, and we will show both. A whole piece of the plan is still working thru some of those numbers.

Grace Johns - How will you distribute copies of the plan when it comes up in May?

John Mulliken - We will send copies and it will be available on our website. People who attend our meetings will receive a notification.

Redy Chitepu - What happen to allocation if the year is below allocation? How do you propose for new allocation?

John Mulliken – The numbers that were in the LEC plan are updated and replaced with new projections. It is presumed there is a new allocation in the permit. The permit is subject to renewal rules in place since 2003, the excess does not rollover.

Jett An – What data are you using?

Barbara Powell – I think it is prior to 2005 data.

John Mulliken - There is a 5 years reoccurring cycle in the planning process, new estimates are released by the Bureau of Economic and Business Research (BEBR). This plan needs to be updated every 5 year. Our staff is engaged with DCA. There is still guidance still being drafted in Tallahassee in coordination with the District, and we will be very involved in local workshops. We are trying to make the plan as reader friendly as possible.

Tom Miller – Does the District have water waste disposal options?

John Mulliken – I don't know how it will fit into the water supply plan.

Tom Miller – I had two issues in mind, ASR and can utilities go to surface water and canal systems for AWC?

John Mulliken – The intent is to get as much water that can be reclaimed to be used for reuse.

Kathleen Greenwood – The water supply projects that are inadequate in meeting their demands. Which demands are you talking about, finished or raw?

John Mulliken – Both

11:00 4. Alternative Water Supply FY 2007 Funding Program, Jane Bucca, Conservation and Grants Manager, Water Supply (See presentation)

Jane Bucca introduced the District's new Utilities Engineers Jorge Patino and Chin Garvey

Questions and answers

Randy Brown – We are trying to get our reuse on the ground but have been setback because of the hurricane. Any leeway?

John Mulliken – We did a recommendation to the Board and are meeting with Staff to recommend 60 days from August 1 deadline

Boca Raton – If only 60% is allocated, what will happen to the rest of the money?

John Mulliken - We did a recommendation to the Board at last week's meeting to put money back into the program next year with one exception for economically disadvantaged community projects. In the Okeechobee lake region it will take about \$1.5 million to fund disadvantaged projects.

Maria Loucraft – Can we apply for reimbursement if we don't expect to complete the project in one year?

Jane Bucca – We are asking that you only apply for what you are going to complete in one year.

John Mulliken – Our FY06 recommendation to the board is that if projects that are not finished can apply by June 1 for the piece that wasn't completed but we are not carrying anything into next year. You can always pick up the piece for 07

Grace Jones - What do you consider a phased minimum explanation?

Jane Bucca – It can be defined by what you can finish in ten months, it doesn't have to produce water as long as it is part of a plan that will produce water.

Irela Bague – For all of those who have been participating I commend you. It is a landmark that moves people in a more progressive direction. The state Legislature has been very supportive as has the DEP. The Governor and our staff are to be commended; to have 80 projects completed is incredible. I look forward to continuing our partnership with the next round of programs.

Jet An - Are funds only for construction? Do we see in the future engineering, planning, or modeling?

Irela Bague - They have to be construction projects; we do not have the money to wait, nor time for engineering and design.

11:20 5. Adjourn, Irela Bague